



State Library of Massachusetts - Special Collections Department

# Ms. Coll. 177

## Massachusetts State House Senate Chamber Refurbishing and Research Project, 1996-1997: Guide

### COLLECTION SUMMARY

**Creator:** Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities

**Call Number:** Ms. Coll. 177

**Extent:** 0.5 document boxes (0.25 linear feet)

**Preferred Citation Style:** *Folder Title, Box Number #.* Massachusetts State House Senate Chamber Refurbishing and Research Project. State Library of Massachusetts Special Collections.

**About This Finding Aid:** Description based on DACS.

**Processed by:** Finding aid prepared by Deanna Parsi, February 2020.

**Abstract:** This collection documents the work done by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities Conservation Center and the architectural firm Goody, Clancy and Associates in 1996 to refurbish the Massachusetts State House Senate Chamber.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection contains a report created by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA) Conservation Center which documents the work done in 1996 by their organization, along with the architectural firm Goody, Clancy and Associates, to refurbish the Massachusetts State House Senate Chamber. The report includes restoration methods, analysis, conclusions, recommendations, cross-section microscopy images, and before and after images.

## BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

The report in this collection, entitled *Massachusetts State House Senate Chamber, Refurbishing and Research Project*, documents the work done to renovate the Senate Chamber in 1996. The Massachusetts Senate contracted with the architectural firm of Goody, Clancy and Associates through the state's Division of Capital Planning and Operations. The SPNEA Conservation Center partnered with the architects to advise on historic paint, plaster and furnishings. The report is separated into three volumes:

*Volume I: Historic Paint and Plaster Issues* was written by Brian Powell, Architectural Conservator at SPNEA Conservation Center in May 1997. This volume includes an introduction and summary of the project, a brief history of the Senate Chamber, and detailed information on the historic paints and plasters found in the Senate Chamber. It also includes cross-section microscopy photographs (photocopies), plaster conservation drawings, and before and after photographs (photocopies). The Appendices include plaster and paint color matches, a list of sample and cross-section locations, and internal memos.

*Volume II: Furniture and Polychrome and Gild Wooden Sculptures* was written by Keith Bakker, Furniture Conservator at SPNEA Conservation Center in May 1997. This volume is separated into three parts. Part One is an Executive Summary, which contains the conservation condition and treatment reports for objects in the Senate Chamber - the 19<sup>th</sup> century furniture, the eagle and banner, and the state seal. Part Two is a Cross-Section Microscopy Report, which includes restoration methods, analysis, conclusions, recommendations, and sample locations for these objects. Part Three includes photographs and slide images (photocopies) with a list of locations, as well as cross-section sample slides (photocopies) with a list of sample locations.

*Volume III: Photographs and Slides Before/After Repainting* was written by Ralph Tolbert, AIA Architect at Goody, Clancy and Associates in September 1997. This volume contains photographs (photocopies) of the Senate Chamber before and after painting, as well as six slides of the Senate Chamber after painting.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### ***Arrangement***

The records are arranged in original order.

### ***Conditions Governing Access***

This collection is open for research during the Special Collections Department's regular hours.

### ***Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use***

Copyright restrictions may apply. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with Special Collections staff.

### ***Technical Access***

This collection includes six slides that need to be viewed on separate equipment. The Special Collections Department staff will assist patrons in accessing this material.

### ***Languages and Scripts***

The collection is entirely in English.

### ***Custodial History***

The report in this collection was created by the SPNEA Conservation Center and Goody, Clancy and Associates in 1997. Additional provenance and accession information is unknown.

### ***Detailed Series Description and Container List***

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
# 1	# 1	Volume I: Historic Paint and Plaster Issues, pages 1-27, Introduction, History, Paint, Plaster	1996-1997
# 1	# 2	Volume I: Historic Paint and Plaster Issues, pages 28-83, Cross-Section Microscopy Photographs	1996-1997
# 1	# 3	Volume I: Historic Paint and Plaster Issues, pages 84-102, Photographs Before and After	1996-1997
# 1	# 4	Volume I: Historic Paint and Plaster Issues, Appendices	1996-1997
# 1	# 5	Volume II: Furniture and Polychrome and Gild Wooden Sculptures, pages 1-16, Part One: Executive Summary	1996-1997
# 1	# 6	Volume II: Furniture and Polychrome and Gild Wooden Sculptures, pages 17-29 and photographs, Part Two: Cross-Section Microscopy Report	1996-1997

# 1	# 7	Volume II: Furniture and Polychrome and Gild Wooden Sculptures, pages 30-32 and photographs, Part III: Photographs and Slides	1996-1997
# 1	# 8	Volume III: Photographs and Slides Before/After Repainting	1996-1997